



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Wyoming Crop Weather



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## Week of April 25 – May 1, 2011

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Cool spring temperatures slow snowmelt and delay grass growth.

A cool, wet spring has put some counties in Wyoming between a rock and a hard place. On one hand, below normal air temperatures have delayed mountain snow melt and lessened the current run off levels in counties such as Converse, Lincoln and Uinta, hopefully lowering the threat of floods. However, those same weather conditions have also kept soil temperatures below normal and delayed pastures from greening up in counties such as Sublette, Carbon and Uinta. Sublette County reported that the grass growth has been delayed enough there that an official turn out date for federal grazing lands has yet to be determined and snow melt is up to 4 weeks behind normal. Flood concerns remain in several counties, especially if the weather turns warmer too quickly. The NRCS SNOTEL site, as of May 2nd, showed a snow water equivalent statewide average of 154 percent, well above the average of 75 percent this time last year. The current drainage basin averages range from 124 percent in the Wind River Basin to 197 percent of average in the Belle Fourche River Basin. High temperatures ranged from the upper 40s to the upper 60s. Low temperatures ranged from the upper single digits to 30 degrees.

### SOIL MOISTURE SUPPLIES

Topsoil	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Short	0	0	0	3
Short	9	9	13	21
Adequate	79	80	85	72
Surplus	12	11	2	4

Subsoil	This Week	As of 4/18	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Short	2	2	0	12
Short	18	14	24	30
Adequate	75	80	75	58
Surplus	5	4	1	0

**FIELD CROP REPORT:** Days suitable for field work were 3.8. Topsoil moisture, rated adequate or better, was equal compared to last week, while subsoil moisture with the same rating lost 4 points from the last report on April 18. Mainly due to the weather, planting of small grains and sugar beets continue behind schedule compared to the same time last year. Winter wheat condition was unchanged from last week and less positive in comparison to last year and the 5-year average. Current estimates of crop insect infestation were 83 percent none, 15 percent light and 2 percent moderate. The current estimates of light and moderate infestations are up 6 points from the last report on April 18.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Planted	73	65	76	74
Barley Emerged	26	20	23	32
Oats Planted	52	45	56	49
Oats Emerged	13	11	15	19
Winter Wheat Jointed	31	12	11	9
Spring Wheat Planted	17	10	36	36
Spring Wheat Emerged	1	1	9	11
Sugar Beets Planted	23	11	60	66

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
Winter Wheat	0	1	33	64	2

**LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT:** Shearing of farm and range flocks, lambing and calving continue to move forward. The majority of calf and lamb losses were normal. However, estimates of heavy losses, in both species, are respectively 3 and 6 points higher than this time last year. Range and pasture spring grazing prospects are unchanged from last week with 74 percent rated good or better. Current range and pasture conditions remain well above the 5-year average, with good or better estimates accounting for 68 percent. Stock water supplies were rated at 5 percent short, 91 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus, very similar to the last report on April 18.

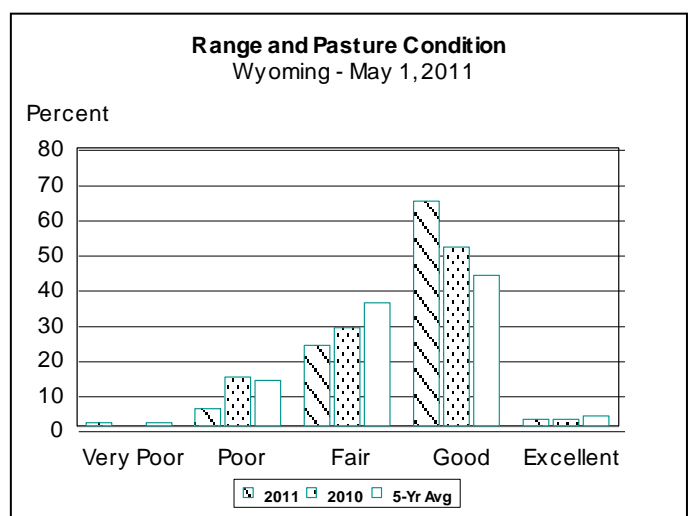
### CALF AND LAMB LOSSES

Calf Losses	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Light	37	32	25	21
Normal	58	62	73	75
Heavy	5	6	2	4

Lamb Losses	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Light	29	28	20	18
Normal	64	65	79	81
Heavy	7	7	1	2

### LIVESTOCK PROGRESS TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Spring Calves Born	84	78	83	87
Farm Flock Ewes Lambed	88	82	85	86
Farm Flock Sheep Shorn	82	71	83	85
Range Flock Ewes Lambed	29	26	41	37
Range Flock Sheep Shorn	62	57	66	62



### RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITIONS

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Poor	2	3	1	2
Poor	6	6	15	14
Fair	24	23	29	36
Good	65	65	52	43
Excellent	3	3	3	4

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** For the second week in a row, weekly air temperatures averaged below normal at all of the 33 reporting stations. Temperature averages ranged from 11 degrees below normal at Evanston to 5 degrees below normal at Dubois, Big Horn, Sheridan, Sundance, Cheyenne and Chugwater. The high temperature for the state was 69 degrees at Torrington, Worland and Greybull, while a state low of 7 degrees was recorded at Shirley Basin. Midwest received the most precipitation for the week with 1.32 inches, 0.82 inches above normal for the reference week, but still leaving them 0.25 inches below normal for cumulative precipitation since January 1, 2011. Lake Yellowstone has received the most cumulative precipitation above normal since January 1, with 2.25 inches above normal. Evanston remains the furthest behind for cumulative precipitation. Twenty five stations recorded below normal precipitation for the week while seventeen are below normal for cumulative precipitation since January 1, 2011.

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 1, 2011 <sup>1/</sup>

	Weekly Air Temperature				Weekly Precipitation			Since Jan 1 Precipitation	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total Inches	Normal Inches	DFN	Total Inches	DFN
<b>District 1</b>									
Cody	64	27	42	-7	0.05	0.35	-0.30	3.85	1.43
Dubois	57	16	35	-5	0.10	0.35	-0.25	3.59	1.41
Greybull	69	30	45	-6	0.18	0.23	-0.05	2.27	0.39
Jeffrey City	61	13	34	-9	0.68	0.44	0.24	2.30	-0.82
Lake Yellowstone	55	18	34	-7	0.46	0.33	0.13	5.99	2.25
Lander	65	22	40	-8	0.21	0.56	-0.35	3.48	-0.97
Powell	68	24	41	-8	0.36	0.20	0.16	1.81	0.67
Riverton	65	25	41	-8	0.25	0.33	-0.08	1.38	-0.38
Worland	69	24	43	-9	0.10	0.28	-0.18	1.38	-0.43
<b>District 2</b>									
Big Horn	67	28	43	-5	1.03	0.49	0.54	6.03	1.85
Buffalo-Johnson	66	29	42	-6	0.22	0.47	-0.25	2.96	-0.28
Gillette	65	27	42	-7	0.99	0.63	0.36	4.16	-0.21
Midwest	66	23	40	-8	1.32	0.50	0.82	3.64	-0.25
Newcastle	64	28	42	-8	0.63	0.48	0.15	4.44	0.97
Sheridan	66	26	44	-5	0.35	0.47	-0.12	4.40	1.02
Sundance	61	29	42	-5	0.60	0.63	-0.03	6.06	1.34
<b>District 3</b>									
Big Piney	58	10	31	-10	0.00	0.16	-0.16	1.23	-0.69
Evanston	56	18	32	-11	0.24	0.29	-0.05	2.23	-1.13
Jackson Hole	48	19	32	-9	0.14	0.38	-0.24	7.63	-0.18
Thayne	58	20	35	-6	0.30	0.45	-0.15	6.91	1.05
<b>District 4</b>									
Casper	66	23	40	-7	0.50	0.46	0.04	3.25	-0.46
Laramie	59	13	35	-6	0.06	0.31	-0.25	2.39	-0.35
Rawlins	61	16	37	-9	0.12	0.30	-0.18	2.32	-0.52
Rock Springs	60	19	36	-8	0.16	0.28	-0.12	2.03	-0.94
Shirley Basin	55	7	31	-6	0.27	0.28	-0.01	3.97	1.76
<b>District 5</b>									
Buford	59	20	34	-6	0.27	0.43	-0.16	4.93	0.91
Cheyenne	64	24	41	-5	0.29	0.46	-0.17	3.33	-0.23
Chugwater	65	23	41	-5	0.49	0.52	-0.03	4.37	0.54
Douglas	65	22	42	-6	0.19	0.51	-0.32	2.66	-0.64
Lance Creek	66	27	43	-7	0.33	0.49	-0.16	2.34	-0.80
Old Fort Laramie	68	22	43	-7	0.08	0.49	-0.41	4.22	1.16
Torrington	69	24	45	-6	0.43	0.50	-0.07	3.96	0.79
Wheatland	65	22	42	-9	0.40	0.46	-0.06	3.61	0.93

1/ Summary based on NWS data. DFN=Departure from Normal. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Weather data prepared by AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955